

(b) The Chairman, in his letter has mentioned about inadequacy of funds, development of Social Sciences without any political or ideological interference, improvement of working conditions of the staff of ICSSR, enhancement in the rate of national fellowships and scholarships. The ICSSR is a registered Society. Complaints have been received from a number of Council members regarding the arbitrary functioning of the Chairman, ICSSR. The funding position of the ICSSR for the last three years is as follows:—

Year	(Rs. in lacs) •	
	Plan	Non-Plan
1998-1999	700.00	687.30
1999-2000	750.00	1000.00
2000-2001	1290.00	1314.00

(c) ICSSR is an autonomous body and thus fully empowered to make progress in social sciences without any political interference.

Saffronisation of education system

4663. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether eminent educationists have flayed Government for foisting the Hindutva elements on the NCERT and also to propagate the ideology of hate and bigoted chauvinism;

(b) if so, whether the steps of Government to saffronise education system has been widely criticised;

(c) if so, the reaction of Government on such criticism; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to ban such books which have been severely criticised?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (d) The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has a mandate under the National Policy on Education to review the auricular framework of our schools periodically. As part of that exercise, they

[27 April, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

have initially circulated a discussion document for revising the curricular framework and later on after due deliberations and discussions all over the country, through a number of seminars, workshops, etc. they have finalised a document called "National Curriculum Framework for School Education". It has been adopted in the Executive Committee of the NCERT wherein all the State/UT Governments are members. The recommendations of the NCERT are advisory in character and each State/UT Government is expected to adapt/adopt as per its own assessment. There has been a lot of public debate on this document, and the document has been widely appreciated and some criticism was also received. Government have circulated this document to all the State/UT Governments for such action as they deem fit. No books in pursuance of the same have been published so far.

Literacy campaign in Madhya Pradesh

†4664. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Literacy for All programmes is a time based and NGO based campaign and whether it is necessary to operate all the activities in time bound manner for the success of the campaign;

(b) whether the scheme is being implemented in all the districts of Madhya Pradesh;

(c) if so, whether the Centre has released the amount of second instalment to the Madhya Pradesh for 51 projects of the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) The National Literacy Mission funds programmes for Total Literacy Campaign, Post Literacy Programmes and Continuing Education Programmes. This is done with the active support of various sections of society including

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.